

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically setting an operative state of a wideband amplifier in a multi-channel television receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring at least one signal quality parameter; and

deciding to switch the amplifier either to its ON state (active state) or to its OFF state (inactive state) on the basis of the measured parameter,

wherein the step of deciding to switch the amplifier to its ON state (active state) is exclusively taken during at least one time interval when the receiver is switched to a channel, or during activation of the multi-channel television receiver, or during an installation process when all channels are scanned **and wherein the measuring step includes measuring whether or not the amplifier in its ON state actually offers an improvement in signal quality and/or measuring actual disturbing signal contributions from unwanted channels.**

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein, if it has been decided to switch the amplifier to its ON state (active state) on the basis of the measuring result, signal quality monitoring procedures are performed repeatedly, each procedure comprising the steps of:

- remeasuring said signal quality parameter;
- deciding, on the basis of the remeasured parameter, to either maintain the amplifier in its ON state (active state) or to switch the amplifier to its OFF state (inactive state).

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of measuring at least one signal quality parameter comprises the step of measuring intermodulation products or a noise-related signal or determining whether an automatic gain control system of the receiver is active or inactive.

4. Canceled

5. Canceled

6. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically setting an operative state of a wideband amplifier in a multi-channel receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring at least one signal quality parameter; and

deciding to switch the amplifier either to its ON state (active state) or to its OFF state (inactive state) on the basis of the measured parameter,

wherein the step of deciding to switch the amplifier to its ON state (active state) is taken during at least one time interval when the receiver is switched to a channel wherein measuring that at least one signal quality parameter includes determining whether a DC voltage level of an automatic gain control signal (AGC2) has a first value indicating that the automatic gain control system is inactive, or has a value within a predetermined range indicating that the automatic gain control system is active.

7. Cancelled.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of deciding to switch the amplifier comprises the steps of:

a) switching the amplifier to its OFF state (inactive state);

b) measuring a value $S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$ of said at least one signal quality parameter while the amplifier is maintained in its OFF state;

c) comparing the measured value ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$) with a predetermined decision level;

d) if the comparison indicates good signal conditions, deciding to keep the amplifier operating in its OFF state.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of deciding to switch the amplifier comprises the steps of:

- a) switching the amplifier to its OFF state (inactive state);
- b) measuring a value of $S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$ said at least one signal quality parameter while the amplifier is maintained in its OFF state;
- e) switching the amplifier to its ON state (active state);
- f) measuring a value of $S_{IP}(LNA=\underline{ON}OFF)$ said at least one signal quality parameter while the amplifier is maintained in its ON state;
- g) comparing the two measured values ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$; $S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$);
- h1) if the difference between the two measured values ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$; $S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$) indicates more intermodulation products in the case when the amplifier (204) is in its OFF state as compared to the case when the amplifier is in its ON state, deciding to switch the amplifier to its ON state;
- h2) if the difference between the two measured values ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$; $S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$) indicates more intermodulation products in the case when the amplifier is in its ON state as compared to the case when the amplifier is in its OFF state, deciding to switch the amplifier to its OFF state.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein steps (a) and (b) are taken before steps (e) and (f).

11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9, comprising the step of:

- h3) if the two measured values ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$; $S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$) are mutually equal, deciding to switch the amplifier to its ON state.

12. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9, comprising the step of:

- h3) if the two measured values ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$; $S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$), are mutually equal ($S_{IP}(LNA=OFF) = S_{IP}(LNA=ON)$):

- h3i) checking whether the value $S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$ of the signal quality parameter in the case of the amplifier being switched OFF)) has an extreme value (S_{MAX});
- h3ii) if the value $S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$ of the signal quality parameter in the case of the amplifier being switched OFF (is unequal to said extreme value, deciding to switch the amplifier to its ON state;
- h3iii) if the value $S_{IP}(LNA=OFF)$ of the signal quality parameter in the case of the amplifier being switched OFF is equal to said extreme value, deciding to switch the amplifier to its OFF state.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of measuring at least one signal quality parameter comprises the step of measuring signal conditions of all available channels and the steps of measuring and deciding to switch are taken exclusively during an initializing procedure of the receiver.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the at least one signal quality parameter comprises a signal-to-noise ratio and a signal strength of each of the available channels.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled

17. (Currently Amended) A multi-channel television receiver comprising:

- an input for receiving a wideband signal potentially comprising multiple channels;
- a tuner stage;
- a wideband amplifier connected between said input and said tuner;
- a controllable switch bridging said amplifier;
- a switch controller designed to generate a switch control signal (BSC);

wherein the switch controller is designed to measure at least one signal quality parameter and to generate its switch control signal (BSC) on the basis of the measured parameter;

and wherein the switch controller is designed to switch the switch from its closed state (amplifier inactive) to its open state (amplifier active) exclusively during at least one time interval when a channel is selected **and wherein the controller measures whether or not the amplifier in its ON state actually offers an improvement in signal quality and/or measures actual disturbing signal contributions from unwanted channels.**